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Osteopathy Gains More Recognition

By **DON DUNHAM**

Medical Writer

The question most often asked relative to the Sheppard murder case, other than the mystery of "Who Did It?", is "How come an osteopathic surgeon? I thought they just manipulated bones."

Here are the chief differences and similarities in the training for and practice of medicine and osteopathy.

A doctor of medicine signs "M. D." after his name. He must have a college degree to enter medical school, where he spends four years more. Then he has a year of internship at an approved hospital, followed by a year or more of residency at such a hospital. Should he desire to specialize and pass his "American Board" examinations in it, he must spend several years more in a hospital approved to teach such a specialty.

Requirements Stiffen

An osteopathic physician signs "D. O." after his name. Such a physician may have little or considerable formal education and specialized training. What follows applies to the recent and presently-trained "D. O."

There are six osteopathic colleges from coast to coast. There are 403 osteopathic hospitals. Of these, 37 are approved to train osteopathic residents and 76 are approved to train interns. Until 1952, only two years of college were required, but of their 529 freshmen that year, only 10 had that little college. There were 345 with college degrees and 20 with advanced degrees.

Three years is now the minimum college requirement for entrance to all osteopathic colleges. The six colleges have 1917 students. The colleges have been given research grants by the U. S. Public Health Service, the Navy and National Institutes of Health.